



# CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

**AGENDA TITLE:** Approve Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids for Tree Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2012/13

**MEETING DATE:** April 18, 2012

**PREPARED BY:** Public Works Director

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for tree maintenance for Fiscal Year 2012/13.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** This project provides for the structural pruning, maintenance trimming, emergency calls, and removal of City trees at various locations throughout the City for Fiscal Year 2012/13. The project will also include removal of 40 Modesto Ash trees, 39 Raywood Ash (Phase II of the Lower Sacramento Road tree replacement project), and tree spraying. The Phase II project includes the planting of 39 15-gallon Podocarpus gracilior "Fern Cloud" bush type plants. Including the Phase II project with the tree maintenance contract should result in a cost savings. An objective of this contract is to improve the health of our urban forest and reduce costs associated with this effort.

In addition to the aforementioned work, the contract will secure pricing for other miscellaneous tree work which may include maintenance pruning (structural and clearance) and crown reductions, tree planting, tree removals, stump grinding, mistletoe removal, tree pest control, and emergency call outs. Recently, much of the annual tree trimming budget was spent on tree pruning, tree removals, and emergency responses due to storm-related damage. The contract provides for individual tree pruning, which is more effective than grid pruning, as practiced in the past. The contract will be for one year with two one-year extensions, if mutually agreeable.

Mistletoe pruning is included along Church Street between Lodi Avenue and Kettleman Lane. Of the approximately 200 affected trees, 23 trees will be removed due to the extent of infestation and damage, and the remaining trees will be pruned to remove the mistletoe.

The specifications are on file in the Public Works Department. The planned bid opening date is May 9, 2012. The project estimate is \$200,000.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Selective tree maintenance improves tree health, which will reduce the number of emergency calls.

**FUNDING AVAILABLE:** Funding will be identified at contract award.

  
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Public Works Director

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**APPROVED:**   
Konradt Bartlam, City Manager